

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-20 EB-08 AID-05 /100 W  
-----010447 230803Z /65

R 210940Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8975  
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
CINCPAC

UNCLAS DACCA 2483

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS : PEPR, BG, MY  
SUBJECT : VISIT OF MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

1. THE MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, TENGKU DATUK AHMED RITHAUDDEEN, PAID A THREE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO BANGLADESH APRIL 18-20. DURING HIS VISIT, HE MET PRESIDENT ZIAUR RAHMAN AND HELD SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR SHAMSUL HUQ, WHO OUTLINED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 20 VARIOUS FORMS OF COOPERATION ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS REACHED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. HUQ SAID THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AGREED TO ESTABLISH A JOINT COMMISSION AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL TO CONSULT ON MATTERS OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INTEREST. HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN BANGLADESH AND SOUTH ASIA WITH THE NATIONS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA,  
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NOTING THAT BANGLADESH WAS A "GEOPOLITICAL BRIDGEHEAD" BETWEEN THE TWO AREAS. COOPERATION BETWEEN BANGLADESH AND MALAYSIA - BOTH MEMBERS OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE WITH IDENTICAL VIEWS ON MANY ISSUES - WAS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT, HE SAID.

3. TENGKU RITHAUDDEEN LAID SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE THEME

OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY IN HIS COMMENTS TO THE PRESS. HE ALSO PRAISED BANGLADESH'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND OFFERED MALAYSIAN ASSISTANCE, WITHIN ITS "CAPACITY", AND THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AGREED TO UNDERTAKE THE FOLLOWING IN THE ECONOMIC AREA:

--THE BDG WILL GIVE "DUE CONSIDERATION" TO THE SIGNING OF A CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT;

--A MALAYSIAN DELEGATION WILL VISIT BANGLADESH SOON TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASING COOPERATION IN RUBBER AND PALM OIL PRODUCTION;

--MALAYSIA WILL EXTEND SUPPORT FOR BANGLADESH'S FOOD FOR WORK PROGRAM;

--13 SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT FOR BANGLADESHI STUDENTS, FIVE OF WHOME WILL STUDY THE TECHNICAL PRODUCTION OF RUBBER.

4. DURING THE VISIT, THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ALSO SIGNED A CULTURAL ACCORD. THE BANGLADESH PRESS WAS UNANIMOUS IN PRAISING THE VISIT.  
SCHNEIDER

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**TAGS:** PEPR, SOPN, ECON, BG, MY, (RITHAUDDEEN, TENGKU DATUK AHMED)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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